

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for assisting buyers in selecting a supplier of a good or service begins by receiving a price quote for the good or service from the supplier. A request is then submitted to an insurance company requesting the company to issue a policy for reimbursing the buyer for economic damage the buyer may realize as a result of purchasing the good or service from the supplier. The insurance company assesses the risk of insuring the buyer based on information about the buyer and supplier stored in a database. Preferably, the information about the buyer is conveyed electronically to the insurance company over the internet. Also, the risk assessment is preferably all performed in software. A decision on whether to offer the insurance policy to the buyer is then made if a favorable risk assessment is returned. The buyer then decides whether to accept the policy by performing a comparative analysis which involves determining whether the sum of the supplier's costs plus the cost of the insurance policy is greater than or less than the price which the buyer's existing supplier is charging him for the goods or services.